

CLAIMS

1. An electronic endoscope system comprising:

a signal processing unit that converts a signal read from a solid-state imaging device incorporated in an electronic endoscope into a predetermined video signal;

a detector that detects the connection to the signal processing unit; and

a restricting unit that restricts processing to be performed by the signal processing unit according to the result of detecting performed by the detector.

2. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the detector detects the type of solid-state imaging device incorporated in the electronic endoscope connected to the signal processing unit.

3. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein: the signal processing unit includes a main board on which basic features are implemented, and an expansion board which is attachable or detachable to or from the main board and on which extension processing is performed on an image signal processed by the basic features; and the detector detects whether the expansion board is present.

4. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting unit that restricts processing restricts a selective item to be contained in a setting screen image that helps a user determine settings for the

processing to be performed by the signal processing unit.

5. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting unit that restricts processing restricts handling of a switch on the front panel of the signal processing unit or lighting of an LED on the front panel.

6. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting unit that restricts processing restricts handling of a switch on the keyboard of the signal processing unit or lighting of an LED on the front panel.

7. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the processing to be performed by the signal processing unit is electronic zooming.

8. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting unit restricts indication of a feature that achieves the processing to be restricted.

9. An electronic endoscope system according to Claim 8, wherein the processing to be restricted is enlargement based on electronic zooming, and the presentation of an electronic zooming magnification is restricted.

10. An electronic endoscope system comprising:

a signal processing unit that converts a signal read from a solid-state imaging device incorporated in an electronic endoscope into a predetermined video signal;

a detecting means for detecting the connection to the

signal processing unit; and

a restricting means for restricting processing to be performed by the signal processing unit according to the result of detecting performed by the detecting means.